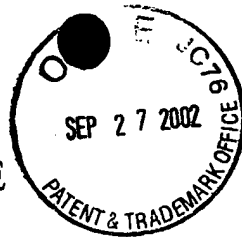


BROUILLETTE

KOSIE

Robert Brouillette
Direct line (514) 397-6900
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AC
#2

September 25, 2002

**The Honorable Commissioner
of Patents and Trademarks**
Washington D.C. 20231 U.S.A.

*Agents de brevets
et marques*

*Patent and
Trade Mark Agents*

Re: US patent application, claiming internal priority Canadian application no.
2,332,224, filed January 25, 2001
Title : Track with clips in a non-sequential arrangement
Inventors : Yves ST-PIERRE
Applicants : Soucy International Inc.
Appl. No. : unknown
Filing date : January 22, 2002
Our file : 04104-017-US-02

Petition and Request under rule 1.181, 1.182 and/or 1.183

Dear Madam/Sir:

I (the undersigned) am responsible for the prosecution of the above identified patent application.

Documents for the filing of the above identified patent application were sent to my U.S. associates "Patent Providers" for hand delivery by them to the Patent Office. I am herewith enclosing a copy of the documentation sent to my U.S. associates. These documents include my covering letter to the U.S. Patent Office including a sheet of filing particulars, a complete specification comprising an abstract, 6 pages of specification, and 3 pages of claims containing 13 claims and figures 1 and 2. The enclosed copy of my covering letter has been re-signed by myself, i.e. the copy of the covering letter includes my original signature.

Although the Patent Office received the filing papers on January 22, 2002, as evidenced by the Office stamp on the Acknowledgement card (mentioned below), the Filing Receipt has not yet been received.

The facts for the present matter are as follows:

1) on January 18, 2002, our firm faxed a copy of an instruction letter to our U.S. associates, namely Patent Providers;

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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

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MONTREAL

(QUÉBEC)

CANADA

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2) our file include a copy of a covering letter to the U.S. Patent and Trademarks Office signed by myself, including a copy of the instruction letter to Patent Providers, my covering letter to the U.S. Patent Office including a sheet of filing particulars, a complete specification (comprising an abstract, 6 pages of specification, and 3 pages of claims containing 13 claims and figures 1 and 2), and an Acknowledgement card;

3) the Filings particulars includes a claim to internal priority from Canadian patent application no. 2,332,224 filed January 25, 2001;

4) that we received from our U.S. associates, namely Patent Providers a confirming receipt of the above documents with fax copy of an acknowledgment post card bearing the U.S. Patent and TradeMarks stamped dated January 22, 2002;

5) on July 10, 2002 and September 10, 2002, a review of my firm's file with respect to the above identified application indicate that we had not yet received the filing receipt; as a result, Ms Sylvie Bergeron of our firm made a number of telephone enquires at the U.S. Patent and TradeMrks Office to ascertain the filing number of the patent application but was advise's that the application had not yet been entered into the patent office system;

In light of the above facts:

A) The undersigned, on behalf of the applicants, respectfully petitions and requests that the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks place a patent application on file, at the United States Patent Office, in the name of Soucy International Inc. using the separate copy of the specification attached hereto. For this purpose, as mentioned in my covering letter (also attached hereto), the patent office is hereby authorised to charge our deposit account number 02-3980 for the payment of the prescribed filing fees (small entity) as well as for any and all further fees whatsoever that may be presently required for this purpose.

and

B) The undersigned, on behalf of the applicants, respectfully Petitions and requests that the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks accord a filing date of January 22, 2002 to the above mentioned patent application in the names of Soucy International Inc.. An affidavit of Sylvie Bergeron in support of this petition is attached herewith. The patent office is hereby authorized to charge our deposit account

**BROUILLETTE
KOSIE**

number 02-3980 for the payment of the prescribed petition fee of \$130.00 under rule 1.17(h), as well as for any and all further fees whatsoever that may be presently required in order to complete this petition for according a filing date of January 22, 2002..


The Patent Office is further requested to deal with this matter on an urgent basis; i.e. business negotiations have been conducted on the basis of an January 2002 filing date.

If any other fees whatsoever are due, the US Patent Office is also hereby authorized to charge any such additional fees to our Deposit Account no. 02-3980.

All telephone conversations should be directed to Robert Brouillette at (514) 397-6900.

Respectfully submitted,

BROUILLETTE KOSIE



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Montréal, Québec, H3B 5C9
Canada

RB/sb

Encl. Affidavit of support of Petition and Request, signed by Sylvie Bergeron, including Annexes A to F
Copy of a covering letter to U.S. Patent Office including a sheet of filing particulars
Copy of a complete specification comprising an abstract, 6 pages of specification, and 6 pages of claims containing 13 claims, figure 1 and 2 and an acknowledgment post card